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**Section I. (Amendments to the Specification)**

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, please insert below the title, before the heading "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION," the following new paragraph:

**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is filed under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §371 and claims the priority of International Patent Application No. PCT/US2005/002745 filed 31 January 2005 in the name of Harold J. Schreier and Yossi Tal for "DISSIMILATORY SULFATE REDUCTION AS A PROCESS TO PROMOTE DENITRIFICATION IN MARINE RECIRCULATING AQUACULTURE SYSTEMS," which claims the benefit of priority under 35 USC §119(e) of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/540,566 filed 30 January 2004. The disclosures of said International Patent Application PCT/US2005/002745 and said U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/540,566 are hereby incorporated herein by reference, in their respective entireties, for all purposes.